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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 31, 2005

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Michael R. Hull)

Docket No.: 06005/39677  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael W. McCarty

Application No.: 10/760,601

Confirmation No.: 9950

Filed: January 20, 2004

Art Unit: 3754

For: ROD CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurred first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee (37 CFR 1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Copies of the references listed on the attached SB/08 Form are not enclosed as they were previously sent in related Patent Application Serial No. 10/360,668 filed February 7, 2003.

Our check in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

02/04/2005 FMEKII1 00000011 10760601

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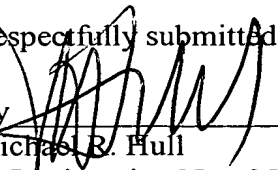
Application No.: 10/760,601

Docket No.: 06005/39677

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 06005/39677. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: January 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/760,601-Conf. #9950
				Filing Date	January 20, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Michael W. McCarty
				Art Unit	3751
				Examiner Name	John Bastianelli
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	06005/39677

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A	1,288,674	12/1918	Robert L. Pratt	
	B	3,716,069	02/1973	Robin Francis Norman Reynolds	
	C	4,752,151	06/1988	Ashida et al.	
	D	5,082,391	01/21/1992	Florida	
	E	5,193,932	03/1993	Tsung-Hwei Wu	
	F	5,308,184	05/1994	Alain Bernard	
	G	5,323,428	06/21/1994	Porter et al.	
	H	6,135,670	10/2000	Bahnman et al.	
	I	6,302,374 B1	10/16/2001	Fink	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	J	DE 653 090 C	13/11/1937			
	K	FR 2 558 904 A	02/08/1985			
	L	GB 2 368 620 A	08/05/2002			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	M	Samson product brochure, "Ventiel-Bouwsysteem".	
	N	International Search Report for PCT/US2004/001513, issued June 15, 2004.	
	O	Written Opinion for PCT/US2004/001513, mailed June 15, 2004	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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